

COUNTY REAL ESTATE ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(CREEGAC)  
Iowa Real Estate On-Line Project  
Implementation Paper  
Presented 2/28/07

Project Sponsor: Kenneth Kline

Project Points-of-Contact:

- Kenneth Kline      641-421-3034
- Dave Ellis          515-961-1151

**Goal:**

The Iowa Real Estate On-Line project will create a new application that will enable the public to go to one web portal to search and view information from independent websites/web portals without reentering parcel information and without knowing that data had been accessed from different sources.

The web service will be comprised of the following functions:

- a. an application that would enable the public to go to one web portal to search and view information from the four independent websites/web portals;
- b. an application that would allow specific real estate parcel information to be displayed on a 'consolidated' screen that shows data accessed from multiple sources in a manner that is transparent to the user.
- c. an application that would initiate concurrent searches on multiple websites using their existing search engines to retrieve specified data. Because of this approach, the project will neither house data nor contain a search engine.
- d. an application that will have the following features:
  - a. property search – this will allow the user to search for property records from among the four affiliate databases
  - b. consolidated property view – this will allow the user to be able to view information about a single parcel with data from the affiliate databases
  - c. extended links - from the consolidated view, this will allow the user to be able to link out to other websites to view additional information about the selected parcel or perform actions such as paying property taxes
  - d. frequently asked questions (FAQS) – the website will include explanations of the property information and answer common question about discrepancies or limitations of the data
  - e. state and county links – the website will allow users to browse and follow statewide and county specific links to property related information and services
  - f. content administration – the application will allow authorized users from each of the four affiliates to update the FAQs and links content thereby eliminating the need to engage the services of ITE when changes are necessary.

**Project Purpose:**

The goal of the project is to create an Internet web portal linking the websites/web portals of the four offices that serve as custodians of the county real estate data. The 4 (four) affiliates include:

- 1. recorders
- 2. treasurers
- 3. auditors
- 4. assessors.

The Iowa Real Estate On-Line application will increase public access to Iowa real estate information from any web-accessible site.

**Background:**

The need for the Iowa Real Estate On-Line project was identified by the Iowa Legislature. The goal of this legislation was to integrate the websites/web portals used by the four affiliate offices (assessors, recorders, treasurers and auditors).

To meet this goal, the County Real Estate Electronic Government Advisory Committee (CREEGAC) committee was created pursuant to House File 882, 2005 Iowa Acts and House File 2794, 2006 Iowa Acts.

**Request:**

The request is for \$146,000 to cover the Implementation Phase as well as first year hosting charges broken out as follows:

DAS-ITE	
(application development, unit testing, training)	\$98,000
(hosting)	\$3,000
Iowa State Association of Assessors	\$20,000
Iowa State Association of County Auditors	\$25,000
 Total Request	 <b>\$146,000</b>

**Cost Avoidance:**

The cost of implementing such a system is reduced by using proven existing software rather than “starting from a blank slate” or buying a new “off of the shelf” product.

**Interested Parties:**

- Citizens of the State of Iowa
- Assessors
- Realtors
- Attorneys
- Abstractors
- Appraisers
- Surveyors
- Engineers

Representatives of the Banks and Credit Unions

**Some of the Recipients of this Service:**

See above Interested Parties.